

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1-8 have been withdrawn. In the above amendments, claims 9-11, 13, 15, and 16 have been amended; and new claims 19 and 20 have been added. Claims 9, 13, 15, and 17 are the independent claims of the application that have not been withdrawn.

In the Office Action mailed on May 3, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 9, 10, 13, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Offord *et al.*, U.S. Patent Number 5,901,075 (“Offord” hereinafter) in view of Mueller *et al.*, U.S. Patent Number 3,715,666 (“Mueller” hereinafter) and further in view of Nikias *et al.*, U.S. Patent Number 5,282,225 (“Nikias” hereinafter). Claims 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Offord in view of Mueller and Nikias, and further in view of publication by Chin Hwa Lee *et al.*, 1 Signals, Systems and Computers 89-93 (1994). The Examiner allowed claims 17 and 18. Finally, the Examiner objected to claims 15 and 16 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants respectfully respond to this Office Action.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the notification of allowability of claims 17 and 18, and of presence of allowable subject matter in claims 15 and 16. Claim 15 has been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of its base and intervening claims. Claim 16 depends from the rewritten claim 15 and should also be allowable.

35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejections

Independent claim 9 has been amended to recite first and second associated coefficients, the first associated coefficient corresponding to a first plurality of time slots, the second associated coefficient corresponding to a second plurality of time slots, time slots of the second plurality of time slots alternating with time slots of the first plurality of time slots. Independent claim 13 has been amended in a similar manner. Support for the amendment may be found, for

example, in the specification at page 12, lines 16-20; page 13, lines 3-9 and 17-21; page 21, lines 11-30; page 27, lines 15-29; page 31, lines 22-28; and in Figures 3A, 3B, 4, and 7. Applicants respectfully submit that Offord, Mueller, and Nikias do not disclose or suggest this limitation. At least for this reason, independent claims 9 and 13 are patentable over the cited references.

Dependent claims 10, 11, 12, and 14 should be patentable together with their respective base claims.

New Claims

New claims 19 and 20 have been added to claim additional aspects of the invention. Support for the new claims may be found, for example, in the specification at page 27, lines 20-29; and page 31, lines 22-24.

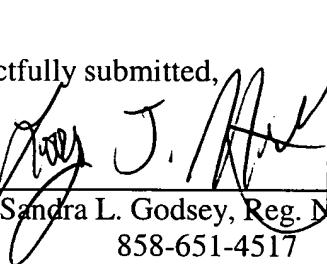
REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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